

1 AN ACT

2 RELATING TO SCHOOL PERSONNEL; ALLOWING THE USE OF A TEACHER
3 PORTFOLIO FOR LEVEL ONE LICENSURE; ALLOWING RECIPROCITY FOR
4 LEVELS TWO AND THREE NEW MEXICO LICENSURE FOR INSTRUCTIONAL
5 SUPPORT PROVIDERS WHO ARE LICENSED IN OTHER STATES.

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7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

8 SECTION 1. Section 22-10A-7 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2003,
9 Chapter 153, Section 38, as amended) is amended to read:

10 "22-10A-7. LEVEL ONE LICENSURE.--

11 A. A level one license is a provisional five-year
12 license for beginning teachers that requires as a condition
13 of licensure that the licensee undergo a formal mentorship
14 program for at least one full school year and an annual
15 intensive performance evaluation by a school administrator
16 for at least three full school years before applying for a
17 level two license.

18 B. Each school district, in accordance with
19 department rules, shall provide for the mentorship and
20 evaluation of level one teachers. At the end of each year
21 and at the end of the license period, the level one teacher
22 shall be evaluated for competency. If the teacher fails to
23 demonstrate satisfactory progress and competence annually,
24 the teacher may be terminated as provided in Section
25 22-10A-24 NMSA 1978. If the teacher has not demonstrated

1 satisfactory progress and competence by the end of the
2 five-year period, the teacher shall not be granted a level
3 two license.

4 C. Except in exigent circumstances defined by
5 department rule, a level one license shall not be extended
6 beyond the initial period.

7 D. The department shall issue a standard level one
8 license to an applicant who is at least eighteen years of age
9 who:

10 (1) holds a baccalaureate degree from an
11 accredited educational institution;

12 (2) has successfully completed a
13 department-approved teacher preparation program from a
14 nationally accredited or state-approved educational
15 institution;

16 (3) has passed the New Mexico teacher
17 assessments or the New Mexico teacher portfolio, including
18 for elementary licensure beginning January 1, 2013, a
19 rigorous assessment of the candidate's knowledge of the
20 science of teaching reading; and

21 (4) meets other qualifications for level one
22 licensure, including clearance of the required background
23 check.

24 E. The department shall issue a standard level one
25 vocational license to an applicant who meets the requirements

1 of Subsection D of this section or to an applicant who is at
2 least twenty-three years of age and who:

3 (1) has five or more years of professional
4 experience in the vocational field in which the applicant
5 will teach; and

6 (2) meets other qualifications for level one
7 licensure, including clearance of a background check pursuant
8 to Section 22-10A-5 NMSA 1978.

9 F. The department shall issue an alternative level
10 one license to an applicant who meets the requirements of
11 Section 22-10A-8 NMSA 1978.

12 G. The department shall establish competencies and
13 qualifications for specific grade levels, types and subject
14 areas of level one licensure, including early childhood,
15 elementary, middle school, secondary, special and vocational
16 education.

17 H. The minimum salary for a level one teacher,
18 except for a teacher licensed pursuant to Subsection E of
19 this section, is fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) for a
20 standard nine and one-half month contract; provided that
21 teachers in an extended learning time program or K-5 plus
22 program shall receive additional salary at the same rate as
23 their base salary for that teaching time.

24 I. After the issuance of a license, a license
25 holder shall not be required to meet changed requirements to

1 maintain the license until such time as the license expires
2 and the license holder seeks renewal of the license."

3 SECTION 2. Section 22-10A-12 NMSA 1978 (being Laws
4 2003, Chapter 153, Section 43, as amended) is amended to
5 read:

6 "22-10A-12. LIMITED RECIPROCITY.--

7 A. A teacher or school principal licensed in
8 another state may be granted a level two or level three
9 license if the teacher or school principal has teaching
10 experience, demonstrates the required competencies and meets
11 other requirements and qualifications for the license for
12 which the teacher or school principal applies, including
13 clearance of the required background check. The local
14 superintendent may require a mentorship period for the
15 licensee if the superintendent deems it necessary. A teacher
16 or school principal who holds an out-of-state license may
17 apply for a lower level license if the teacher or school
18 principal does not meet the requirements for the higher
19 level.

20 B. The department may grant a level three-B
21 license to a candidate who does not meet the other
22 requirements and qualifications of that license if the
23 candidate has a school administrator license issued in another
24 state and has worked as a school administrator in good
25 standing for at least six years.

1 C. An instructional support provider licensed in
2 another state may be granted a level two or level three
3 license if the instructional support provider has professional
4 experience, holds a professional license in addition to a
5 school license, if applicable, and demonstrates the required
6 competencies and meets other requirements and qualifications
7 for the license sought, including clearance of the required
8 background check. A local superintendent may require a
9 mentorship period for the licensee if the local superintendent
10 deems it necessary. An instructional support provider who
11 holds an out-of-state school license may apply for a lower
12 level license if the instructional support provider does not
13 meet the requirements and qualifications for the higher
14 level."

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